

NEW CLAIMS

New independent claim 19 recites:

- A washing method comprising the steps of:
- (A) washing an object to be washed using a hydrocarbon washing agent;
 - (B) washing the object using alcohol after the step (A);
 - (C) washing the object using an aqueous solution including an emulsifier after the step (B); and
 - (D) washing the object using a water after the step (C).

In claim 19, the expression "a hydrocarbon washing agent" has been used instead of "hydrocarbon solution" that is now used in claim 1.

Nishi does not disclose washing an object to be washed using a hydrocarbon washing agent and then washing the object using alcohol. As noted above, since a hydrocarbon washing agent is not disclosed as the washing agent in Nishi, a person of ordinary skill in the art would have no realistic motive to utilize one of alcohols of Sherman as the detergent in the method of Nishi. Thus, claim 19 is patentable over Nishi and Sherman considered alone or in combination.

New claims 20-25 depend from claim 19 with claims 23-25 being related to non-elected claims 2-3 and 12-13. As new independent claim 19 is patentable over the applied prior art references, new dependent claims 20-25 are patentable over the applied prior art also. Therefore, the allowance of new claims 19-25 is respectfully solicited.

CONCLUSION

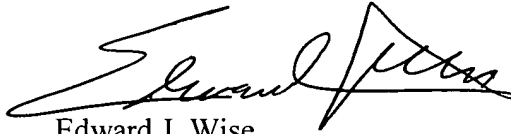
Accordingly, it is urged that the application, as now amended, is in condition for allowance, an indication of which is respectfully solicited. If there are any outstanding issues

that might be resolved by an interview or an Examiner's amendment, Examiner is requested to call Applicants' attorney at the telephone number shown below.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

McDERMOTT WILL & EMERY

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Edward J. Wise', written over a horizontal line.

Edward J. Wise
Registration No. 34,523

600 13th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005-3096
(202) 756-8000 EJW/dmd
DATE: September 1, 2004
Facsimile: (202) 756-8087